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Date: Sept 9/2009

Signature: *John's for*
Allan Brett, 40,476

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 10/697,309
Applicant : Abdelgader Legnain
Filed : October 31, 2003
TC/A.U. : 2436
Examiner : Oscar Louie

Confirmation No. 9870

Docket No. : 77682-224
Customer No. : 07380

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Letter of September 2, 2009, a summary of the series of Examiner Interviews of August 19-24, 2009 is hereby provided.

Interview Summary begins on page 2 of this paper.

Interview Summary

We thank the Examiner for the opportunity on August 19-24, 2009 to discuss the claimed invention with the Examiner in light of the cited references, and to clarify with the Examiner what are believed to be examples of novel and inventive aspects of the claimed invention that distinguish over the cited references.

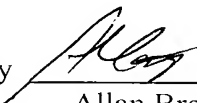
The participants in the interview included Oscar Louie (Examiner) and Jeffrey Slater (Technical Consultant).

Following the last interview conducted with the Examiner on August 24, 2009, Applicant provided the Examiner with a proposed set of claim amendments that added the features “determining the first information from the codeword of the first set of codewords associated with the overall maximum second output symbol and determining the second information from the codeword of the second set of codewords associated with the overall maximum second output symbol” and “the first information is determined from the codeword of the first set of codewords associated with the overall maximum second output symbol and the second information is determined from the codeword of the second set of codewords associated with the overall maximum second output symbol” to independent claims 1 and 16, respectively.

Applicant submitted that the foregoing features were novel and non-obvious over the prior art of record and the Examiner agreed.

Respectfully submitted,

LEGNAIN, ABDELGADER ET AL.

By 

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Date: September 9, 2009
RAB:JFS:gcs:mcg